

The modest and suggestive account of the author's experience in the correction of various deformities such as the excessively large ear, outstanding ears, folds, bags, and wrinkles of the skin about the eyes, hump and tip tilted nose, the inverted and over-developed lip, the unusually large mouth, etc., indicates at least some of the possibilities in this field of work. While the various operative procedures described may not meet with unanimous approval, yet the author assures us that they have given excellent results in his hands. Other than this general discussion of the book, no further comments seem necessary beyond emphasis of the admonition of the author "that discretion prevail, and that perfect results alone are satisfactory in this branch of surgery, and that no operation be attempted without careful consideration of the case from every point of view so that no untoward or unexpected complications may arise to discredit operator or specialty."

A. J. L.

**A Manual of Pathology.** By Guthrie McConnell, M. D., Pathologist to the St. Louis Skin and Cancer Hospital and to St. Luke's Hospital; Bacteriologist to the Missouri State Board of Health; formerly Assistant Pathologist to the Philadelphia City Hospital. W. B. Saunders Company.

For one reared in a world where the importance of morphological detail is subordinated to the biological significance of such expressions of altered function, much in this volume will appear commonplace and inconsequential. Careless of critical discrimination and writing from a viewpoint of a decade back, the author does not glance beyond the gross manifestations of disordered function and altered structure to the fundamental qualities of living substance with which science has mostly dealt within the last few years. Of greater and more permanent value to the student than mere morphology is a general conception of pathology in its relationships to the phenomena of normal physiology.

In placing the book before the public the author naturally disclaims an attempt to replace any of the more voluminous works on pathology; he has sought brevity and has tried at the same time not to sacrifice clearness in the exposition of the material. In so far as its brevity is concerned we pronounce the work a success, but as to the clearness our misgivings might be accounted a prejudice. As might be expected the introductory chapters entitled Pathology, Defects of Development, Disorders of Metabolism, Circulatory Disorders, and Retrogressive Processes contain discussions reduced to the proportion of dictionary definitions. The succeeding one on Inflammation is most disappointing; no reference here to the outlooks so happily emphasized in the monographs of Metschnikoff and Adami. What should have been an illuminating and suggestive discussion is but the time worn tale of yesterday. The section devoted to Neoplasms, while necessarily containing short descriptions which might be considered from the examiner's standpoint adequate, is, so far as making the nature of the various tumors clear, utterly useless. The account in the following chapters of Ehrlich's Lateral Side-Chain Theory is futile. Chapters XII on Specific Micro-organisms and XVII on Bacteriological Methods would have better been omitted. On page 267 it is stated that the "milk-spots so commonly observed on the epicardium are the result of constant pressure"; we grant that this view has often been expressed, but our experience does not accord with this belief. In the part devoted to the pathology of the heart, we find no mention of the role played by lesions of Hiss' bundle; nor do we find the description, in another part of the book, of the production of gall-stones complete.

Without entering into a more detailed criticism of this little volume, it seems clear to the reviewer that the point of view is so restricted that it forecloses any significant gleanings of the relationships of pathology to the allied phases of biological science, nor does it suggest pathology as but one aspect of the diverse manifestations of life and energy, rather than as belonging to a special and exclusively human domain.

A. J. L.

**A Compend of Surgery for Students and Physicians.**

By Orville Horwitz, B. S., M. D. Professor of Genito-Urinary Surgery, Jefferson Medical College, etc. Sixth Edition, P. Blakiston's Son & Co. 1907.

That there should be demand enough for a quiz compend of surgery to cause it to be printed, is a sad commentary on our system of medical education. That there could be any commendable feature of such a book is inconceivable, and it is well known and shamelessly admitted that they serve merely as a help to passing examinations. Probably the facts so crudely stated are for the most part correct; but such a compilation is merely to make easier the useless memory-tests of our school and state examinations. From the standpoint of surgery there can be nothing useful or stimulating or even purposeful in the "quiz compend." The fact that this little book is part of the library of so many of our medical students is a significant reflection on the manner in which surgery is taught in our schools. Is it not time the set lecture courses of surgery were discarded, in favor of something alive, that will keep the student awake? Of what interest can it be to a student to hear a professor of surgery tell for an hour what can be read in the books? He is not blind that his pabulum should be so administered. Let the time be taken in demonstrating cases to illustrate the reading; in teaching the man to examine the patient with his own senses. Our students do not intimately handle enough cases. Reading without the specific illustration is deadly, but becomes a live interest when the man has just seen a case in point. If the time wasted on set lectures were consumed in giving well chosen clinics, in quizzing the students at the bedside, in instructing them while they performed operations on animals, the quiz compend would go out of print.

The man who conducts a course in surgery should consider it a personal indictment of his method, that his students read a compend. What a man has seen and done for himself makes him a valuable member of the profession—not what he has committed to memory—and our examinations should be so framed—if we must have them—that they will set a premium on experience even, to students, and not on the conning of textbooks.

Whether or not the "quiz compend" that is under consideration is different in any way from others in its class, I do not know. I should as soon think of reading the dictionary as a quiz compend. C. B.

**Text Book of Psychiatry: A Psychological Study of Insanity for Practitioners and Students.**

By Dr. E. Mendel, ao Professor in the University of Berlin. Authorized translation edited and enlarged by William C. Krauss, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y. President Board of Managers, Buffalo State Hospital for the Insane; Medical Superintendent Providence Retreat for the Insane. Neurologist to Buffalo General, Erie County, German, Emergency Hospitals, etc. Member of the American Neurological Association. Philadelphia, F. A. Davis & Co., Publishers, 1907.

We must congratulate Dr. Krauss for his discernment in giving us an English version of Prof. Men-